

**Sunday, 10 June 2007**

**Psalm 23: 1-6**

**Ps. 23:1-6** *A Psalm of David.* Jehovah is my Shepherd; I shall not want. He makes me to lie down in green pastures; He leads me beside the still waters. He restores my soul; He leads me in paths of righteousness for His name's sake. **Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil; for You are with me;** Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me. You prepare a table for me in the presence of my enemies; You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life; and I shall dwell in the house of Jehovah forever.

### **Children of God will never be alone.**

This psalm is by far one of the most powerful pieces of scripture ever written. In this psalm, we find so much of our own lives, irrespective of where we are in our lives. In it we find the peaceful times of relaxing in green pastures, and having everything we want in abundance, but we also find the opposite where we see that we have enemies watching us, and even have the immanent fear of death coming.

We find king David during a time in his life, where he is reflecting back on his life, and tries to find words to describe how God has been there for him, always. Because David was a Shepherd as a young boy, he makes use of the example he knows so well. He compares God with a Good Shepherd.

David compares God as the Shepherd that will lay down His life for his sheep. A Shepherd that will never forsake his sheep, and that will remain with His sheep, even when death might come to Him. David lived in a time before Jesus had come, and died for us on the cross. But even in the time of David, he knew that God is everywhere, and will always be with His children. So often we fear what might come over our way in life, unsure of what the future might hold. So often we feel overwhelmed by our situations, and circumstances, feeling completely isolated and alone. These feelings were known to David, as he knew how it was to fear for your life, to flee from a son that would want to kill you, and even knew the pain of losing a child by death. Yet he knew that he will never be completely alone. God will be with him always.

In this psalm we learn something about death. Death being the most lonely place one could ever imagine to be. Death is the place where no friend or family member can be with you to comfort or encourage you. Yet, we need not fear, for God will be waiting there for us, leading us through to eternal life. This is a promise to us all. As Children of God, we will never be alone, God will be with us, regardless of how bad things may seem. Take His hand, and walk into the future, knowing that you will never be alone.

\* Should you wish to write me, and are in need of someone who would listen and pray with you... Please do. [david@davidniebuhr.com](mailto:david@davidniebuhr.com)

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